



Ag Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Featured Statistics:

Farm Labor	2
Chicken & Eggs	3
Commercial Red Meat Production	4
Rice Stocks	4
Farm Computer Usage	5
Cropland Rented for Cash	7
Price Highlights	8

United States Wage Rates Up 4 Percent

There were 1,273,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of July 6-12, 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.88 per hour during the July 2003 survey week, up 31 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.18 per hour, up 28 cents from last July. Livestock workers earned \$8.62 per hour compared with \$8.38 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.28 per hour, was up 26 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.0 hours for hired workers during the survey week, unchanged from a year ago.

Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States July 6-12, 2003 with Comparisons ¹

Farm Employment	July 7-13, 2002	April 6-12, 2003	July 6-12, 2003
		1,000	
Hired Workers	1,006	781	953
150 Days or More	723	619	678
149 Days or Less	283	162	275
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	256	157	320
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,262	938	1,273
		Hours Per Week	
Hours Worked, Hired Workers	40.0	40.1	40.0
		Dollars Per Hour	
Wage Rate for			
All Hired Workers ^{2,3}	8.57	9.16	8.88
Field & Livestock Combined	8.02	8.49	8.28
Field	7.90	8.40	8.18
Livestock	8.38	8.75	8.62

¹ Excludes AK.

² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers
by Region and United States, July 6-12, 2003 ¹**

United States and Region	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock Combined	
Dollars Per Hour				
Northeast I	8.77	8.10	8.54	9.54
Northeast II	8.18	8.56	8.25	8.93
Appalachian I	7.61	8.17	7.76	8.30
Appalachian II	7.79	7.98	7.88	8.27
Southeast	7.55	7.87	7.61	8.08
Florida	8.55	8.30	8.51	9.55
Lake	8.34	8.95	8.55	9.36
Cornbelt I	8.44	9.71	8.78	9.45
Cornbelt II	9.60	8.87	9.31	9.51
Delta	7.13	8.03	7.35	7.70
Northern Plains	7.89	8.79	8.15	8.52
Southern Plains	7.62	7.58	7.60	8.15
Mountain I	7.27	7.41	7.34	7.63
Mountain II	7.86	8.62	8.06	8.56
Mountain III	7.11	8.41	7.55	8.07
Pacific	8.03	10.95	8.32	8.74
California	8.47	9.94	8.61	9.23
Hawaii ²	9.55		9.55	11.25
United States ³	8.18	8.62	8.28	8.88

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.² Insufficient data for livestock.³ Excludes AK.

**All Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Selected States, Region
and United States, July 6-12, 2003 ¹**

United States and Region	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked
		150 Days or More	149 Days of Less	
		1,000		Hours Per Week
Southeast	35	21	14	37.2
Florida	45	39	6	39.0
Delta	25	18	7	38.8
Northern Plains	37	23	14	43.9
Southern Plains	61	49	12	38.2
Pacific	110	54	56	36.3
California	235	203	32	46.1
Hawaii	7	6	1	36.7
United States ²	953	678	275	40.0

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.² Excludes AK.

Chicken Eggs in Incubators, by Region and United States, August 1, 2002 - 2003

State	Broiler-type			Egg-type		
	2002	2003	2003/2002	2002	2003	2003/2002
	1,000 Pounds		Percent	1,000 Pounds		Percent
North Atlantic	11,663	12,322	106	4,745	4,854	102
East North Central	7,600	8,395	110	6,868	7,100	103
West North Central	20,614	22,026	107	7,821	7,500	96
South Atlantic	239,283	233,599	98	3,916	2,556	65
South Central	342,058	341,216	100	5,195	5,099	98
West	23,507	23,217	99	4,287	3,601	84
United States	644,725	640,775	99	32,832	30,710	94

July Layers and Egg Production, by Selected States and United States, 2002 - 2003

State	All Layers on Hand ¹		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000		Million		Million	
Alabama	9,972	9,749	45	46	142	137
Arkansas	14,567	15,361	99	99	183	192
Florida	10,312	10,813	208	229	12	11
Georgia	20,124	20,337	216	246	181	174
Mississippi	6,794	6,795	42	44	95	92
North Carolina	11,029	10,663	77	85	135	131
Oklahoma	4,277	4,045	47	45	35	32
South Carolina	5,298	5,254	96	98	19	19
Virginia	2,909	3,143	28	27	30	36
United States	335,498	331,702	6,243	6,257	1,104	1,085

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

July Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched, by Selected States and United States, 2002 - 2003

State	July			January-July		
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
Alabama	106,051	105,661	100	737,880	717,006	97
Arkansas	110,953	111,352	100	764,127	765,907	100
Florida	8,679	4,874	56	58,977	37,816	64
Georgia	117,389	118,582	101	792,543	795,231	100
Kentucky	24,087	24,218	101	165,040	167,030	101
Mississippi	70,081	71,521	102	481,009	487,607	101
North Carolina	67,027	64,958	97	476,698	463,021	97
Texas	55,363	53,685	97	388,746	373,535	96
United States	781,707	777,341	99	5,394,093	5,334,270	99

**Commercial Red Meat Production, by Selected States and United States,
July 2003 with Comparisons ¹**

State	July 2002	June 2003	July 2003	July 2003 as Percent of ²	
				July 2002	June 2003
Million Pounds			Percent		
Alabama	4.0	2.9	3.2	79	109
Arkansas	4.9	5.2	5.5	112	106
Florida	5.8	5.6	5.6	96	99
Georgia	20.8	23.1	23.1	111	100
Kentucky	34.5	34.9	36.6	106	105
Louisiana	1.2	1.1	1.1	90	98
Mississippi	23.7	22.5	24.5	104	109
Missouri	35.8	35.4	35.4	99	100
North Carolina	164.2	167.6	170.9	104	102
Oklahoma	79.6	74.7	79.7	100	107
South Carolina	19.9	19.7	19.2	97	97
Tennessee	17.3	15.6	21.1	122	136
Texas	435.8	442.5	469.1	108	106
United States	4,016.5	3,947.8	4,046.1	101	102

¹ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

² Percentages based on unrounded data.

Rice Stocks: By Position, State and United States, August 1, 2003

State	On Farms or Farm Warehouses	In Mills and Attached Warehouses	In Warehouses not Attached to Mills	In Ports or in Transit	Total all Positions
Rough Rice - 1,000 Cwt.					
Arkansas	600	4,111	4,816	0	9,527
California	*	511	6,422	*	7,043
Louisiana	*	*	*	*	709
Mississippi	*	*	*	0	1,644
Missouri	*	*	*	0	570
Texas	250	*	*	0	578
Unallocated *	375	1,127	1,842	17	
United States	1,225	5,749	13,080	17	20,071
Milled Rice - 1,000 Cwt.					
Arkansas		1,420	*	*	1,545
California		*	0	*	1,063
Louisiana		*	*	*	*
Mississippi		*	*	*	*
Missouri		*	0	0	*
Texas		647	0	0	647
Unallocated *		1,716	54	737	1,319
United States		3,783	54	737	4,574

* Included in unallocated to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Farm Computer Usage: By Selected States and United States, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003

State	Farms							
	With Computer Access				That Own or Lease Computers			
	1997	1999	2001	2003	1997	1999	2001	2003
	Percent				Percent			
Alabama	25	47	48	49	21	37	42	44
Arkansas	25	41	49	51	22	35	47	49
California	51	61	63	64	47	55	56	60
Florida	41	45	50	56	35	39	47	50
Georgia	25	33	36	37	23	29	33	36
Kansas	36	52	58	62	31	46	54	59
Kentucky	23	25	28	32	18	20	27	30
Louisiana	26	35	53	53	21	32	47	47
Mississippi	22	30	37	37	15	24	34	35
Missouri	33	39	55	56	27	34	49	51
North Carolina	30	42	51	52	24	36	47	47
Oklahoma	31	45	48	48	26	33	42	44
South Carolina	25	30	48	49	20	27	40	48
Tennessee	24	35	42	50	17	28	36	41
Texas	41	48	57	58	32	39	52	55
Virginia ¹	31	42	58	65	25	31	49	62
United States ²	38	47	55	58	31	40	50	54

¹ Includes DE, MD, VA and WV.² Excludes AK and HI.

Farm Computer Usage: By Selected States and United States, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003

State	Farms							
	Using Computers for Farm Business				With Internet Access			
	1997	1999	2001	2003	1997	1999	2001	2003
	Percent				Percent			
Alabama	13	24	24	26	9	28	34	39
Arkansas	17	23	26	26	10	25	32	37
California	30	40	36	38	23	46	51	55
Florida	24	27	29	29	19	34	45	49
Georgia	12	18	19	19	11	20	26	26
Kansas	21	26	31	37	11	27	39	48
Kentucky	9	11	12	15	8	14	17	24
Louisiana	14	20	19	19	4	21	40	44
Mississippi	9	11	16	17	4	18	24	29
Missouri	16	19	30	30	10	19	44	48
North Carolina	13	20	24	24	10	30	37	43
Oklahoma	15	17	21	22	9	28	38	39
South Carolina	11	12	19	19	9	17	35	35
Tennessee	7	13	16	18	8	24	34	41
Texas	21	23	26	26	18	31	46	50
Virginia ¹	13	15	26	34	12	24	48	57
United States ²	20	24	29	30	13	29	43	48

¹ Includes DE, MD, VA and WV.² Excludes AK and HI.

Farm Computer Usage: Access and Use of Internet by State and United States, 2001 and 2003

State	Farms								
	Purchase Agricultural Inputs Over Internet ¹		Conduct Agricultural Marketing Activities Over Internet ²		Access USDA/NASS Reports Over Internet ³		Access Other USDA Reports/Services Over Internet ³		Access Other Federal Government Web Sites Over Internet ³
	2001	2003	2001	2003	2001	2003	2001	2003	2003
	Percent				Percent				
Alabama	5	6	3	5	3	9	5	10	10
Arkansas	6	6	5	5	4	8	8	9	8
California	5	14	6	12	8	8	11	15	15
Colorado ⁴	6	13	9	10	5	8	11	8	13
Florida	10	10	12	12	6	6	8	8	3
Georgia	2	7	3	4	4	4	4	5	5
Idaho	6	9	12	13	9	9	13	15	16
Illinois	7	8	7	9	9	7	12	14	11
Indianapolis	4	9	6	10	6	4	9	10	9
Iowa	6	9	9	9	9	9	14	14	13
Kansas	4	6	4	5	5	6	7	12	9
Kentucky	2	3	2	3	2	5	3	7	5
Louisiana	7	7	3	3	4	4	5	5	2
Michigan	6	8	5	5	6	6	11	11	11
Minnesota	5	7	7	11	9	9	13	13	12
Mississippi	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	8	5
Missouri	3	5	7	7	6	6	13	13	9
Montana	7	11	10	12	8	8	13	18	22
Nebraska	4	8	7	9	7	7	10	15	12
Hew Hampshire ⁵	10	19	9	12	4	4	6	9	12
New York	10	13	12	12	6	6	10	10	10
North Dakota	5	8	8	10	10	10	14	19	15
Ohio	7	9	5	6	6	6	7	9	16
Oklahoma	1	6	7	5	4	5	8	10	10
Oregon	8	20	14	12	7	7	13	10	20
Pennsylvania ⁶	9	11	5	7	5	5	8	8	11
South Dakota	4	6	5	7	6	7	8	12	13
Tennessee	3	5	4	6	7	4	8	6	7
Texas	6	8	7	7	5	5	8	9	10
Virginia ⁷	9	8	5	9	5	4	7	15	14
Washington	5	11	9	18	5	10	16	15	19
Wisconsin	7	7	6	8	4	4	9	9	8
United States ⁸	6	8	6	8	6	6	9	11	11

¹ Agricultural inputs include seed, fertilizer, chemicals, veterinarian supplies, feed, machinery, replacement parts, farm supplies, office equipment, etc.

² Agricultural marketing activities include direct sales of commodities, on-line crop and livestock auctions, on-line market advisory services, commodity price tracking, etc.

³ Reference period for access and usage of USDA reports, research information, and services is last 12 month: June 2002 to June 2003.

⁴ Includes AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, and WY.

⁵ Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁶ Includes NJ and PA.

⁷ Includes DE, MD, VA, and WV.

⁸ Excludes AK and HI.

Cropland Rented for Cash: Average Cash Rent per Acre
by Selected States, 1999-2003 ¹

State and Land Type	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Dollars					
Arizona					
Irrigated	140.00	135.00	135.00	135.00	135.00
Arkansas	67.00	69.00	67.00	69.00 *	71.00
Irrigated	78.00	80.00	78.00	80.00 *	78.00
Non-Irrigated	50.00	50.00	48.00	53.00 *	55.00
California					
Irrigated	260.00	300.00	310.00	310.00	300.00
Colorado	58.00	55.00	65.00	65.00 *	60.00
Irrigated	95.00	90.00	100.00	95.00	93.00
Non-Irrigated	18.00	18.00	22.00	22.50 *	23.00
Florida					
Non-Irrigated	30.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00
Georgia	47.30	50.00	55.00	55.00	56.00
Irrigated	90.00	91.00	103.00	103.00	105.00
Non-Irrigated	37.20	39.10	38.00	39.00	40.00
Kansas	36.00	36.50	39.00	39.00	39.00
Irrigated	66.00	67.00	72.00	70.00	68.00
Non-Irrigated	35.00	35.50	36.00	36.00	36.00
Kentucky	70.00	74.00	72.00	68.00	70.00
Louisiana	56.90	55.20	62.00	62.00	62.00
Irrigated	70.00	70.00	74.00	73.00	68.00
Non-Irrigated	49.60	51.90	56.00	57.00	59.00
Mississippi	58.00	61.00	62.00	62.00 *	63.00
Irrigated	76.00	80.00	79.00	79.00	78.00
Non-Irrigated	49.20	52.00	54.00	54.00 *	56.00
Missouri					
Non-Irrigated	59.00	62.00	65.00	66.00 *	70.00
North Carolina	45.00	45.00	48.00	49.50 *	51.00
Ohio	73.70	74.00	76.50	77.00 *	78.00
Oklahoma					
Non-Irrigated	27.00	26.00	27.00	27.00	27.50
South Carolina	22.00	24.20	27.50	28.50	28.50
Tennessee	62.00	60.00	59.50	60.50	62.00
Texas	24.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.30
Irrigated	49.00	53.00	53.00	53.00 *	55.00
Non-Irrigated	18.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Virginia	35.70	36.50	36.50	36.00	36.50
48 States	67.50	70.00	71.00	71.60 *	73.00

* Revised.

¹ Unless otherwise specified as irrigated or non-irrigated, data are for all cropland.

Mississippi and United States Price Highlights, August 2003 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	August 2002 Entire Month		July 2003 Entire Month		August 2003 Mid-Month	
		MS	US	MS	US	MS	US
Dollars							
Corn	bu	---	2.38	---	2.17	---	2.13
Cotton, Upland	lb	.288	.330	.436	.461	.436	.440
Sorghum, grain	cwt	---	4.21	---	3.63	---	3.75
Soybeans	bu	¹	5.53	¹	5.83	¹	5.56
Winter Wheat	bu	---	3.63	---	2.89	---	3.39
Rice, Rough	cwt	---	3.71	---	5.09	---	5.40
All Milk	cwt	---	11.30	---	12.00	---	13.00
Fluid	cwt	---	11.30	---	12.00	---	13.00
Manufacturing	cwt	---	9.90	---	11.50	---	12.60
All Beef Cattle	cwt	---	64.40	---	75.80	---	78.50
Cows	cwt	---	36.40	---	44.90	---	44.80
Calves	cwt	---	94.90	---	103.00	---	105.00
Steers & Heifers	cwt	---	67.30	---	78.80	---	81.70
All Hogs	cwt	---	31.90	---	42.80	---	41.10
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	---	32.60	---	43.20	---	41.60
Sows	cwt	---	19.00	---	33.40	---	33.00
Broilers, Live	lb	---	.290	---	.360	---	.370
Market Eggs	doz	.430 ²	.436 ²	.400 ²	.524 ²	.670	.669

--- Estimates not made.

¹ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.² Mid-month prices.